National Perspective Plan for R&D in Power Sector

2163. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Research and Development in Power Sector for the next 15 years;

(b) what are the salient features and objectives of this plan; and

(c) whether this plan is being implemented presently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) With a view to providing an impetus to R&D efforts in the Power Sector, a Standing Committee on R&D was set up under the Chairman, Central Electricity Authority with Director General, Central Power Research Institute as Member Convener. It has prepared a perspective research and development plan for the next 15 years in order to ensure optimum utilization of the research and development infrastructure by establishing linkage between:

a. The basic and the applied research and development needs of the power sector;

b. The national level and organizational level research and development plans;

to channelise the outcome of research for the benefit to the customers and the operational efficiency of the power sector.

The R&D Perspective Plan identifies and prioritizes the crucial R&D needs required to bridge the technology gaps in various subsections of power sector (Generation, Transmission & Distribution). In addition, the following policy issues are addressed which are essential for formulating strategies and further successful implementation.

- Need for a Nodal R&D agency to formulate strategic plans and partnerships.
- Networking and Mapping the R&D resources including intellectual capital.
- Strengthening the existing R&D infrastructure.
- Nurturing the R&D human resources.
- Funding for R&D initiatives.

The perspective plan has identified 39 broad areas in R&D on 23 themes to be taken up under a short-term programme ranging from 2 to 5 years covering *inter-alia*;

a. the measures to improve plant availability, reliability efficiency and safety; coal beneficiation; RLA and R&M, Green Technology approaches in the thermal sector;

b. silt erosion; measures to improve plant performance renovation and operation and hydro-environment interface in the hydel sector;

c. technologies related to solar, wind, bio-mass etc. under new and renewable sources of energy.

d. *grid operation and control, transmission equipment*, FACTS advances in HVDC transmission, GIS etc. under transmission sector;

e. measures to reduce T&D losses, advanced metering, distribution, automation, custom power devices, demand side management power sector reforms etc. under distribution sector.

The Standing Committee on R&D has drawn an action plan for implementation of the Perspective Plan and is monitoring its operationalisation.

Credit-cum-subsidy scheme for rural housing in Andhra Pradesh

2164. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing any credit-cum-subsidy scheme for rural housing in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds' released to the State under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the houses constructed in the State during the said period, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) The Credit-